



RURAL DISTRICT OF ELHAM

KENT

ANNUAL REPORTS OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1964



OFFICERS AND STAFF

Clerk to the Authority

John Dowdon, A.C.C.S.

Public Health Staff

Medical Officer of Health

C. F. Lynch, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.,
D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

J. A. Byrne, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.,
D.P.H., D.T.L. & H.

Surveyor & Chief Public Health
Inspector

Robert Finn, M.B.S.M., A.P.H.I.,
Cert. Meat & Other Foods Inspector.

Assistant Surveyor & Additional Public
Health Inspector

E. W. Rathmell, M.A.P.H.I., Cert.
Meat & Other Foods Inspector.

General Foreman

M. Brisley

Clerk & Typist

Miss L. C. Godden

Rodent Operator

E. C. Pidduck

(Part time to 27th Nov. 1964
Full time from 28th Nov. 1964)

Refuse Collection, Cesspool Emptying
and Sewer Gang

2 Assistants
4 Drivers
5 Loaders.



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STATISTICS

<u>Area:</u>	36,676 acres.
<u>Population:</u> Registrar-General's estimate of the mid-year population. (1961 Census figure was 9,740)	10,310
<u>Rateable Value:</u>	£336,784
<u>Sum represented by penny rate:</u>	£1,390
<u>Total rainfall:</u>	30.32 ins.
<u>Air temperatures:</u>	Maximum 85°F (35°C) Minimum 15°F (-9°C)
<u>No. of days when rain fell:</u>	158
<u>No. of days when snow fell:</u>	10

Health Department,
Brook House,
Dover.

To: The Chairman and Members of the Elham Rural District Council:

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Rural District for the year 1964.

The health of the community continued to be generally satisfactory as shown by the year's vital statistics the main facts of which are as follows:

Population: The Registrar General's estimated mid-year population was 10,310 which is an increase of 210 on the figure for the previous year.

Birth Rate: The birth rate after correction was 17.0 per 1,000 of the population compared with 13.9 for the previous year and 18.4 for England and Wales.

Death Rate: The death rate after correction was 8.2 which is 4.0 per 1,000 less than in 1963 while the rate for England and Wales was 11.3. Over 83% of deaths occurred over the age of 65 while less than 2% occurred before the age of 1 year.

Infant Mortality: The infant mortality rate was 19.5 per 1,000 live births an increase of 3.5 on the rate for the previous year but compares favourably with the national rate which was 20.

Maternal Mortality: There were no deaths from maternal causes during the year.

Cancer: There were fewer deaths from cancer other than lung cancer. Deaths from cancer of the lung increased giving a mortality for this site of 0.7 per 1,000 of the population compared with 0.5 for the country as a whole. All but one of these deaths occurred in males.

Tuberculosis: Four new cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year. All were in persons over the age of 45. There were no deaths.

Other Notifiable Diseases: Apart from three cases of Scarlet Fever the acute infectious diseases were confined to Measles and Whooping Cough. Measles which was epidemic in 1963 declined to 37 cases while Whooping Cough showed but little change 20 cases having been notified compared with 21 the year before.

Details of the Sanitary Circumstances of the District are included in the Report of the Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector. It is of interest to note the fact that fewer dwellings each year remain unconnected to the public water supply and as its corollary, the progressive increase in the number of premises connected to the public sewers.

I have to thank the Council for their continued support and the staff generally for assistance received during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) C.F. Lynch

Medical Officer of Health.

27th August, 1965.

SECTION 1.

Extract from Vital Statistics for the Year:

1. Births: (Figures as supplied by Registrar General)

(a) Registered Live Births:

	Male:	Female:	Total
Legitimate	62	85	147
Illegitimate	3	4	7
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	65	89	154

Comparability Factor - 1.14

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population:-

Crude	.. .. .	14.94
Adjusted for comparative purposes	..	17.03
Crude Legitimate	.. .. .	14.26
Crude Illegitimate	.. .. .	0.68

(b) Stillbirths:

	Male:	Female:	Total:
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	1	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1	2	3

Stillbirth Rate (per 1,000 live and stillbirths) - 19.1

2. Deaths The figures relating to deaths used in the tables in this Report are those compiled locally adjusted for inward and outward transfers; the number of deaths registered during 1964 totalled 303, outward transfers 177 and inward transfers 41 giving a net allocation to Elham of 167 deaths, a deficiency of one male death on the figure supplied by the Registrar General. The classification of these deaths is obtained from the information submitted by the local Registrar in his weekly returns.

	<u>Male:</u>	<u>Female:</u>	<u>Total:</u>
Registered	78	89	167

Comparability Factor 0.51

Crude death rate per 1,000 estimated population - 16.20
Adjusted for comparative purposes - 8.26

3. Infant Mortality:

	Male:	Female:	Total:
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1	2	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births - 19.5

4. Causes of Death and Age Groups in 1964:

Cause of Death	Male:	Female:	Total
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	-	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	7	1	8
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	8	5	13
Diabetes	1	1	2
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	15	17	32
Coronary Disease, Angina	12	13	25
Hypertension with Heart Disease	2	2	4
Other Heart Disease	14	24	38
Other Circulatory Disease	2	3	5
Pneumonia	4	2	6
Bronchitis	4	2	6
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	-	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	2	3
Other defined and ill defined diseases	2	11	13
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
All other accidents	1	1	2
Suicide	-	1	1
TOTALS	78	89	167

Age Groups in which Deaths Occurred:

Age Groups	Male:	Female:	Total:
Under 1 year	1	2	3
1 Year	-	-	-
2-4 years	-	-	-
5-14 years	-	-	-
15-24 years	-	-	-
25-44 years	-	-	-
45-64 years	13	12	25
65-75 years	18	20	38
75 years and over	46	55	101
TOTAL	78	89	167

5. Specially Recorded Deaths:

Cancer (all ages) - 27

Rate per 1,000 estimated population:

	Elham Rural District	England & Wales
(1) Lung and Bronchus	0.776	0.535
(2) Other sites	1.843	1.674

Age Groups in which Deaths from Cancer Occurred:

Cancer of:	45 - 64		65 - 74		75 & Over		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Stomach	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-
Lung, Bronchus	2	1	4	-	1	-	7	1
Breast	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	3
Uterus	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Other Sites	2	2	2	-	4	3	8	5
TOTAL	4	4	7	2	6	4	17	10

6. Comparative Rates:

	Elham Rural District:		England & Wales:
(per 1,000 Home Population:)	1963:	1964:	1964:

BIRTHS:

Live Births:			
Crude	12.24	14.94	18.4
Adjusted	13.95	17.03	-
Still Births:	0.099	0.291	0.304

DEATHS:

Crude	24.18	16.20	11.3
Adjusted	12.33	8.26	-

INFANT MORTALITY: (Death per 1,000 Live Births)

All causes under 1 year of age	16	19.5	20
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MATERNAL MORTALITY: (Per 1,000 total (Live and Still Births))

All Causes	-	-	0.25
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SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

(a) Hospitals:

St. Mary's Hospital, Etchinghill, situated within the Rural District, provides accommodation for the aged and infirm and chronic sick cases and is administered by the South East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board. Appropriate facilities for the treatment of acute cases, maternity cases and infectious diseases are provided by the Board's hospitals elsewhere in the region.

(b) Laboratory Facilities:

The Public Health Laboratory Service undertakes the examination of pathological and other specimens as well as the routine bacteriological examination of water, milk and other samples.

(c) Nursing and Midwifery Service:

These domiciliary services are provided by the Kent County Council which is the administrative authority for them in the Rural area. The following information on the work of the services during 1964 has been provided by the County Medical Officer.

(1) Number of Home Nurses working in District	..	..	7
Number of Patients attended	..	..	291
Number of attendances including casual visits			8,071
(2) Number of Midwives working in District	..	..	6
Number of births attended	..	..	53

(d) Clinics and Welfare Centres:

The County Council as the Local Health Authority and Education Authority provides various specialist and consultant services for expectant and nursing mothers, infants, toddlers and children of school age. The Regional Hospital Board also provides clinics serving the Rural area, including those for the diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis and venereal disease.

(e) Ambulance Service:

This service is administered and operated by the Kent County Council with ambulance stations in the neighbouring towns.

SECTION C

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIONS AND OTHER DISEASES

1. Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) Notified during 1964 by Age Groups (corrected)

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Food Poisoning
Under 5 years	-	7	25	-
5 - 14 years	2	13	11	-
15 - 24 years	1	-	-	-
25 - 44 years	-	-	1	-
45 - 64 years	-	-	-	1
65 and over	-	-	-	-
Age Unknown	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	20	37	1
Admitted to Hospital	1	-	-	1
Notification Rates per 1,000 Home Population Elham Rural District	0.291	1.94	3.59	0.097
England & Wales	0.425	0.667	6.47	0.114

2. Food Poisoning:

One single case of food poisoning, a *S. typhi* murium infection was confirmed during the year.

An investigation into an epidemic of sickness and diarrhoea among children at a school in the District was carried out following a report from the Head Teacher: although the cause of the illness could not positively be identified the attention of the Kent Education Authority was directed to the unsatisfactory siting of the hand washing facilities in relation to the situation of the water closets at the school.

3. Immunisation and Vaccination:

The Schemes for Whooping Cough and Diphtheria immunisation and Smallpox and Poliomyelitis Vaccination were continued under the administration of the Kent County Council and the following statistics for 1964 are made available by the courtesy of the County Medical Officer:-

(a) Whooping Cough Immunisation:

117 children received primary whooping cough immunisation.

(b) Diphtheria Immunisation:

Number of children resident in the District who received:-

(a) Primary inoculations 117
(b) Reinforcing inoculations 165

3. Institution and Vaccination (Cont'd)

(c) Smallpox Vaccination:

In view of the amendment as to the County Council's proposals under Section 26 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, regarding records of vaccination against smallpox, the following is the sole information now available on this matter:-

Primary Vaccination
1 year

Re-vaccination
School age but under 8 years

78

1

(d) Poliovelitis Vaccination:

Number of vaccinations given in 1964 (based on returns submitted to Ministry of Health).

Year of Birth	3rd and 4th Dose (Salk and Oral)	3 Orals Complete Course
1964	1	29
1963	-	72
1962	-	9
1961	-	9
1949-1960	87	5
1933-1948	-	4
Others	-	-

4. Tuberculosis:

New cases of tuberculosis notified during 1964 were as follows:-

	<u>Pulmonary:</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary:</u>	
	Male:	Female	Male:	Female:
1963	3	1	-	-
	4	1	-	1

Age Grouping of the new cases notified:-

45 - 64 years	2	1	-	-
65 years and over	1	-	-	-

The following "Annual Statement of Tuberculosis" is compiled from the four Quarterly Returns to the County Medical Officer.

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	
	Male:	Female	Male:	Female:
(a) Number of Cases of Tuberculosis on Register as at 1st Jan. 1964.	41	27	3	5
(b) Number of Cases notified under Regulation of 1952 for first time during the year	3	1	-	-
(c) Otherwise added to Register	1	-	-	-
(d) Cases removed from Register during year, including recoveries or deaths (excluding deaths of unnotified cases)	5	3	1	1
(e) Cases on Register at end of 1964	40	25	2	4

No deaths of unnotified cases of tuberculosis were recorded during the year.

Of the 10 patients whose names were removed from the Register during the year, 7 were regarded as recovered, 1 removed from the District and 2 died.

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, (regarding tuberculous persons employed in the milk trade) or Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, (Regarding the compulsory removal of tuberculous patient to hospital).

5. Public Health (Aircraft) Regulations, 1952: Aliens Order, 1953
Commonwealth Immigrants Act, 1962:

Lymington Airport:

18,274 aliens were landed and 9 were referred for medical examination under the Aliens Order; no certificates were issued.

2,761 Commonwealth citizens subject to control under the Commonwealth Immigrants Act, 1962, arrived during the year ended 31st December, 1964; none were referred for medical examination.

Following representations to Skyways Ltd., regarding the need for better facilities for medical examinations at the Airport, plans for the erection of a new medical room were agreed during the year. The project was however still in the planning stage at the end of the year.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1964

Report of the Surveyor & Chief Public Health Inspector

SECTION D

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

1. Water Supply

The quality and quantity of the water supplied by the two Statutory Water Undertakings was satisfactory throughout the year.

Approximately 1500 feet of 3" water main was laid from Sellindge Parish Church to the County Bridge to serve the proposed sewage treatment works for Sellindge and Rock Cottages.

Examination of samples taken during the year

	<u>Bacteriological Examination</u>		
	No. of samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Statutory Supply Undertakings	12	12	-
Private sources piped to dwellings	4	3	1
Other private sources	5	3	2
Totals	21	18	3

97.6% of the total number of dwelling houses in the district had piped supplies of water

Total No. of premises not connected to public water supply: 87

Water Supply (Cont'd.)

No. of houses with piped supply

Parish	Estimated Population	No. of houses	Direct to house
Acrise	166	57	52
Elham	1237	489	476
Elmsted	295	97	97
Hawkinge	1498	455	447
Lynninge	1936	644	629
Lympne	780	206	301
Monks Horton	104	45	45
Newington	342	133	129
Paddlesworth	32	12	12
Postling	161	64	64
Saltwood	845	326	326
Sellindge	902	376	364
Stanford	513	159	152
Stelling	233	84	84
Stelling Minnis	197	81	80
Stowting	161	68	62
Swingfield	908	361	350
TOTAL	10,310	3,757	3,670

Average number of persons per dwelling: 2.74

2. Public Swimming Baths:

There are no public swimming baths in the District.

3. Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal:

Total No. of premises connected to public sewers: 1830

Total No. of premises connected to cesspools or septic tanks: (estimated) 1927

3. Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Cont'd.

(a) Sellindge, Stanford and Lympne
Joint Scheme with East Ashford R.D.C.

Work was started on the construction of the sewage treatment works at Sellindge to serve the parishes of Sellindge, Stanford and Lympne within the District and Brabourne and Smeeth within East Ashford R.D.

Messrs. Robert Saville Ltd. of Maidstone are carrying out this scheme and the contract figure was £142,018.

Contractors who wished to submit tenders for Stage II of this scheme, that is, the construction of sewers, pumping stations and house connections in Sellindge, Stanford and Lympne, were invited and it is anticipated that tenders will be accepted in the New Year.

(b) Cesspool Emptying

Cesspools were emptied by direct labour with two 750 gallon emptiers and by hiring two vehicles from Messrs. Liquid Refuse Disposals Ltd. This contractor proved to be very unreliable towards the end of the year but it is understood that his business is to be transferred to Messrs. Purbridge of Chatham next year.

Despite considerable overtime being worked there was a delay of up to 6 weeks between receipt and execution of requests to empty cesspools.

No separate charge is levied for this service.

Cesspools constructed at Swan Green Estate, Sellindge in waterlogged ground have been found to be leaking and causing pollution in adjoining watercourses, but this nuisance will be abated immediately main drainage is available.

4. General

	No. in district	No. of visits	No. of defect found	No. remedied
Bakehouses	4	4	Nil	Nil
Dairies (retail)	3	4	Nil	Nil
Ice-cream premises	51	17	2	2
Slaughterhouses	3	350	1	Nil
Other places where food is prepared	102	35	7	7
Offensive trades	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Factories: Power	27	8	Nil	Nil
Non-power	4	4	Nil	Nil

4. General Cont'd.

Factories Act. 1961

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	4	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	27	8	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' Premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	31	12	-	-

No defects were found.

Summary of Visits:-

Food premises, shops and slaughterhouses	410
Factories.. .. .	12
Sanitary defects, housing and improvement grants	298
Petroleum storage	91
Sampling and water supplies	15
Building operations and drainage	2642
Council house maintenance.. .. .	197
Town and Country Planning.. .. .	503
Miscellaneous	478

Total No. of inspections of all kinds during the year . . . 4646

The considerable amount of time spent on meat inspection and building operations has meant that many routine inspections have not been carried out. However, authority was given for the establishment to be increased by the appointment of a Building Inspector in the New Year and this will release the Additional Public Health Inspector from building inspections and the supervision of Council house maintenance and enable him to concentrate on public health work.

5. Control of Infestations

Rodent Control

One part-time rodent operator was employed up to 3rd December, 1964 but after that date he was taken on full-time. This appointment was made because there were many infestations which he was unable to treat efficiently whilst only working part-time and also to enable a property survey of agricultural properties to be made.

N.B. These statistics refer to the period 1st April, 1964 to 31st March, 1965.

No. of premises inspected:	Dwelling houses	308
	Agricultural	70
	Business premises	23
	Local Authority	2

No. of premises treated:	Minor infestations	247
	Major infestations	7
	Mice	27

Vermin and Insects

No infestations of bed bugs or fleas came to light during the year. There were fewer wasp infestations this year, probably due to the dry summer and to the increased use of agricultural pesticides.

6. Refuse Collection and Disposal

Fortnightly kerbside collection of dustbins was undertaken by direct labour using two Bedford 7 cu. yd. side loading vehicles, but in August an Austin 12/20 cu. yd. rear loader was purchased and an additional loader was engaged. It was possible to carry out refuse collection during the latter part of the year with very little overtime having to be worked. Authority was received to dispose of the second Bedford vehicle.

Probably due to an ageing population more and more requests are being received for dustbins to be collected from the rear of premises. There are now an appreciable number of elderly people and ladies living on their own who are physically incapable of carrying dustbins containing a fortnights refuse to the kerbside and it might be that the time is ripe for the Council to consider giving a house collection service in the near future.

Only the one refuse tip at Blind House Lane, Stanford was in use. This tip is nearly full but the owner has agreed to lease the Council additional land for tipping and this should be adequate for a further 7 - 8 years.

Salvage

20 tons 1 cwt. of mixed unbaled wastepaper realising £61. 15s. 0d. and 7 tons 18 cwt. scrap metals and rags, realising £145. 12s. 0d. were salvaged and sold during the year. A salvage trailer was ordered and should be delivered at the beginning of next year.

SECTION E

FOOD

1. Milk

No. of registered distributors: 22
No. of registered dairies: 3

2. Ice-Cream

No ice-cream or iced lollies were manufactured in the district.
52 premises were registered for the sale of ice-cream.

3. Meat and Other Foods

Three private slaughterhouses licences were in force.

Carcases inspected and condemned

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	627	41	179	6135	4666	-
Number inspected	627	41	179	6135	4666	-
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u> Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	5	-	-
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	41	16	-	429	502	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticerci	6.54	39.02	-	7.07	17.58	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u> Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	18	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.38	-
No cases of cysticercosis were found						

3. Meat and Other Foods (Cont'd.)

The following foodstuffs were surrendered and condemned as unfit for human consumption:

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
Home killed beef	1	1	1	20
Home killed pork	1	5	1	8
Home killed mutton	1	-	1	13
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-
Total	3	7	-	13

Slaughtering by a wholesale butcher at Swingfield Slaughterhouse has meant working after normal Office hours on the following days:

Sundays	42
Mondays	49
Tuesdays	28
Wednesdays	0
Thursdays	1
Fridays	0
Saturdays	<u>34</u>

Total 154 days

Overtime payments were not made for this work and it was not always possible to take time off in lieu.

A total of 318 hours was spent on meat inspection, of which 194 hours were outside normal office hours.

SECTION F

HOUSING

1. No. of Informal Notices served and complied with 14
(Housing and Public Health Acts)

No. of houses demolished 4

No Statutory Notices were served.

2. Improvement Grants

(a) Discretionary

No. of applications approved	10
No. of dwellings involved . ..	10
No. of applications refused	1
Total amount of grants approved	£3001

(b) Standard

No. of applications approved	14
No. of dwellings involved . ..	14
Total amount of grants paid	£1894

3. Building Operations

During the year 340 applications were considered under the Town and Country Planning Acts and 518 applications of all kinds were received.

4. Council Houses

No houses were built during the year.

301 dwellings in the district were owned by the local authority. This was 8.01% of the total number of dwellings in the district.

5. Privately Built Houses

168 private dwellings were erected during the year and 74 were in course of erection at the end of the year.

963 post war private houses have been erected up to 31st December.

25.63% of all houses in the district are post war.

SECTION G

1. Petroleum (Consolidation) Acts 1928 - 36 and Regulations

All petroleum storage installations in the district were inspected with a Fire Prevention Officer of the Kent Fire Brigade.

43 licences were in force during the year.

2. Administration of Shops Act, 1960

24 visits were made to shops in the district. Most of the provisions of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, came into force during the year.

K. J. W.

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector

